## IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a television signal receiver having an emergency alert function, comprising:

receiving an input representing a geographical area; ~~and~~

providing a masked list of <u>user selectable</u> emergency events responsive to the input, wherein the masked list of emergency events represents a subset of all emergency events associated with the emergency alert function <u>excluding masked events associated with the input geographical area; and</u>

<u>setting the masked events for default notification.</u>

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the geographical area is represented by a FIPS location code.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprised of enabling a user to select an emergency event from the masked list of emergency events.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprised of:

receiving emergency alert signals indicating an occurrence of the selected emergency event; and

providing an alert output responsive to the emergency alert signals.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprised of:

receiving emergency alert signals indicating an occurrence of an emergency event not included in the masked list of emergency events; and

providing an alert output responsive to the emergency alert signals.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the received input represents a plurality of geographical areas;

each of the geographical areas includes at least one masked event; and

the masked list of emergency events excludes ~~the~~ masked events common to all of the plurality of geographical areas.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the plurality of geographical areas are represented by a corresponding plurality of FIPS location codes.

8. (Currently Amended) A television signal receiver having an emergency alert function, comprising:

a memory operative to store data associated with the emergency alert function; and

a processor operative to receive an input representing a geographical area and enable generation of a masked list of user selectable emergency events responsive to the input using the data in the memory, wherein the masked list of emergency events represents a subset of all emergency events associated with the emergency alert function excluding masked events associated with the input geographical area, where the masked events are set for default notification.

9. (Original) The television signal receiver of claim 8, wherein the geographical area is represented by a FIPS location code.

10. (Original) The television signal receiver of claim 8, wherein a user selects an emergency event from the masked list of emergency events.

11. (Original) The television signal receiver of claim 10, further comprising:

a tuner operative to tune a frequency including emergency alert signals indicating an occurrence of the selected emergency event; and

wherein the processor enables an alert output responsive to the emergency alert signals.

12. (Original) The television signal receiver of claim 8, further comprising:

a tuner operative to tune a frequency including emergency alert signals indicating an occurrence of an emergency event not included in the masked list of emergency events; and

wherein the processor enables an alert output responsive to the emergency alert signals.

13. (Currently Amended) The television signal receiver of claim 8, wherein:

the input received by the processor represents a plurality of geographical areas and each of the geographical areas includes at least one masked event; and

the masked list of emergency events excludes ~~the~~ masked events common to all of the <u>plurality of</u> geographical areas.

14. (Original) The television signal receiver of claim 13, wherein the plurality of geographical areas are represented by a corresponding plurality of FIPS location codes.

15. (Currently Amended) A television signal receiver having an emergency alert function, comprising:

memory means for storing data associated with the emergency alert function; and

processing means for receiving an input representing a geographical area and enabling generation of a masked list of <u>user selectable</u> emergency events responsive to the input using the data in the memory means, wherein the masked list of emergency events represents a subset of all emergency events associated with the emergency alert function <u>excluding masked events associated with the input geographical area, where the masked events are set for default notification</u>.

16. (Original) The television signal receiver of claim 15, wherein the geographical area is represented by a FIPS location code.

17. (Original) The television signal receiver of claim 15, wherein a user selects an emergency event from the masked list of emergency events.

18. (Original) The television signal receiver of claim 17, further comprising:

tuning means for tuning a frequency including emergency alert signals indicating an occurrence of the selected emergency event; and

wherein the processing means enables an alert output responsive to the emergency alert signals.

19. (Original) The television signal receiver of claim 15, further comprising:

tuning means for tuning a frequency including emergency alert signals indicating an occurrence of an emergency event not included in the masked list of emergency events; and

wherein the processing means enables an alert output responsive to the emergency alert signals.

20. (Currently Amended) The television signal receiver of claim 15, wherein:

the input received by the processing means represents a plurality of geographical areas and each of the geographical areas includes at least one masked event; and

the masked list of emergency events excludes the masked events common to all of the plurality of geographical areas.

21. (Original) The television signal receiver of claim 20, wherein the plurality of geographical areas are represented by a corresponding plurality of FIPS location codes.